



## ***Working to Make Health Care Affordable and Accessible***

Senator John Cornyn is working to reform our health care system to make certain that every Texan has access to affordable and quality medical services. He believes that patients and their doctors, not lawyers or government bureaucrats, should decide which treatment options are best.

As a member of the Senate's *Task Force on Health Care Costs and the Uninsured*, Cornyn has made certain that free market principles and individual choice were at the foundation of all health care legislation. Cornyn has also been widely recognized for reaching across the aisle in crafting bipartisan proposals to keep Texans healthier for generations to come.

**Over the past four years, Senator Cornyn has established a strong record on health care issues.**

- ✓ Worked to pass the **Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit** providing seniors with prescription drug coverage, saving the average senior \$1,200 per year and giving them flexibility to pick the coverage that best fits their needs.

- **1.1 million Texas seniors are now benefiting from this coverage.**



- ✓ Supported the creation of **health savings accounts** (HSAs) allowing individuals to set up tax-free savings accounts to take more control over their health care expenditures, and cosponsored legislation to make HSAs more flexible.
- ✓ Cosponsored the **Health Insurance Marketplace Modernization and Affordability Act** to allow the 69% of Texas small businesses currently not offering health insurance to join together to sponsor affordable plans for their workers.



care, improve the quality of patient care, and save money for patients and health care providers.

- ✓ Introduced the **Federal Research Public Access Act** increasing the accessibility of federally-funded research by requiring that certain publications generated through taxpayer-funded research be made publicly available.
- ✓ Cosponsored the **Wired for Health Care Quality Act** to encourage the adoption of new technologies in health care, improve the quality of patient care, and save money for patients and health care providers.
- ✓ Supported the **Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act** allowing physicians to compare, analyze, and learn from medical errors without the fear of being sued.
- ✓ Cosponsored the **Patients First Act** to improve patient access to health care by preventing frivolous lawsuits and their burden on the health care system.

Senator Cornyn has helped the 50 **Federally Qualified Health Centers** in Texas receive **\$339 million** in the past four years.
- ✓ Introduced the **Workforce Health Improvement Program** to allow companies to deduct the cost of health club memberships as an employee benefit.
- ✓ Cosponsored the **Combating Autism Act** to increase the investment in the NIH for programs related to autism research, prevention, and treatment.

Senator Cornyn has helped secure more than **\$4.5 billion in funding for NIH projects in Texas** in the past four years.
- ✓ Supported the **Alternative Pluripotent Stem Cell Therapies Enhancement Act** to aid research into techniques of deriving pluripotent stem cells without harming or destroying human embryos.
- ✓ Supported the **Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act** establishing a National Cord Blood Stem Cell Bank Network to enable patient match, use and research.

- ✓ Cosponsored the **Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act** to prohibit discrimination on the basis of genetic information with respect to health insurance and employment.
- ✓ Introduced the **Nurse Faculty Education Act** to create a Nurse Faculty Education Program to ensure an adequate supply of nurse faculty and increase the number of nurses entering the workforce.



### Senator Cornyn continues to work in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress to support health care reform.

- ✓ Introduced the **Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act** giving the Food & Drug Administration authority to regulate tobacco. Smoking kills more than 24,000 Texans every year and this act will help prevent tobacco manufacturers from enticing young people to start smoking and assist current smokers in quitting.
- ✓ Cosponsoring the **Tax Equity Act**, which will lower the cost and expand the availability of health insurance by establishing a tax credit for the 5.4 million Texans without health insurance.
- ✓ Cosponsoring two bills to provide patients with greater access to health care by preventing frivolous lawsuits from continuing to drive doctors out of business:
  - The **Medical Care Access Protection Act**, which places caps on damages in lawsuits.
  - The **Healthy Mothers and Healthy Babies Access to Care Act** ensuring women have access to OB/GYN physicians.
- ✓ Fighting to preserve the market-driven approach in the Medicare drug program that lowers costs and increases choices for Texas seniors.
- ✓ Leading a Senate effort to make **diabetes screening and prevention** for Medicare beneficiaries a top priority in the Medicare program.

*Sign up to receive periodic updates from Senator John Cornyn at <http://cornyn.senate.gov>*